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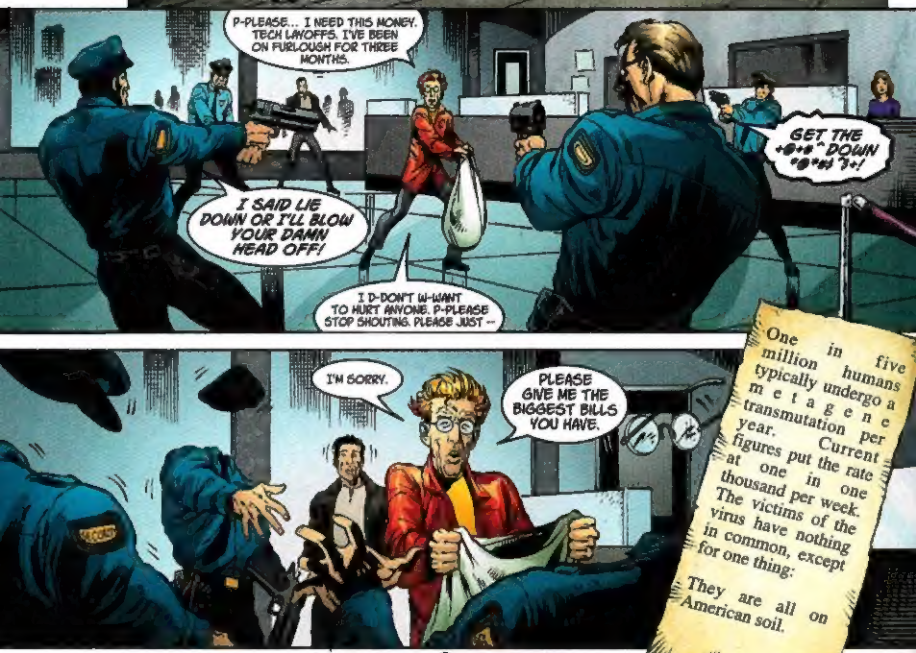
ILY PLANET
Thursday, March 13, 2052
BIALYA KNEW!
META-TERRORISM HITS HOME!
U.S. Government officials privately speculate that the nationwide epidemic of spontaneous metahuman divergence afflicting tens of thousands of Americans was a terrorist and point to Bialya as the leading suspect.
Continued on page 3

NOOO! OH GOD, NO!
IS HE HANDSOME NOW, BETTY?!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE CALLED ME UGLY, BETTY!
YOU SHOULDN'TA DONE THAT!
Less than a month ago in the city of Little Falls, Colorado, thirty-three individuals were infected with the so-called Meta-Virus, which altered their genetic structure.

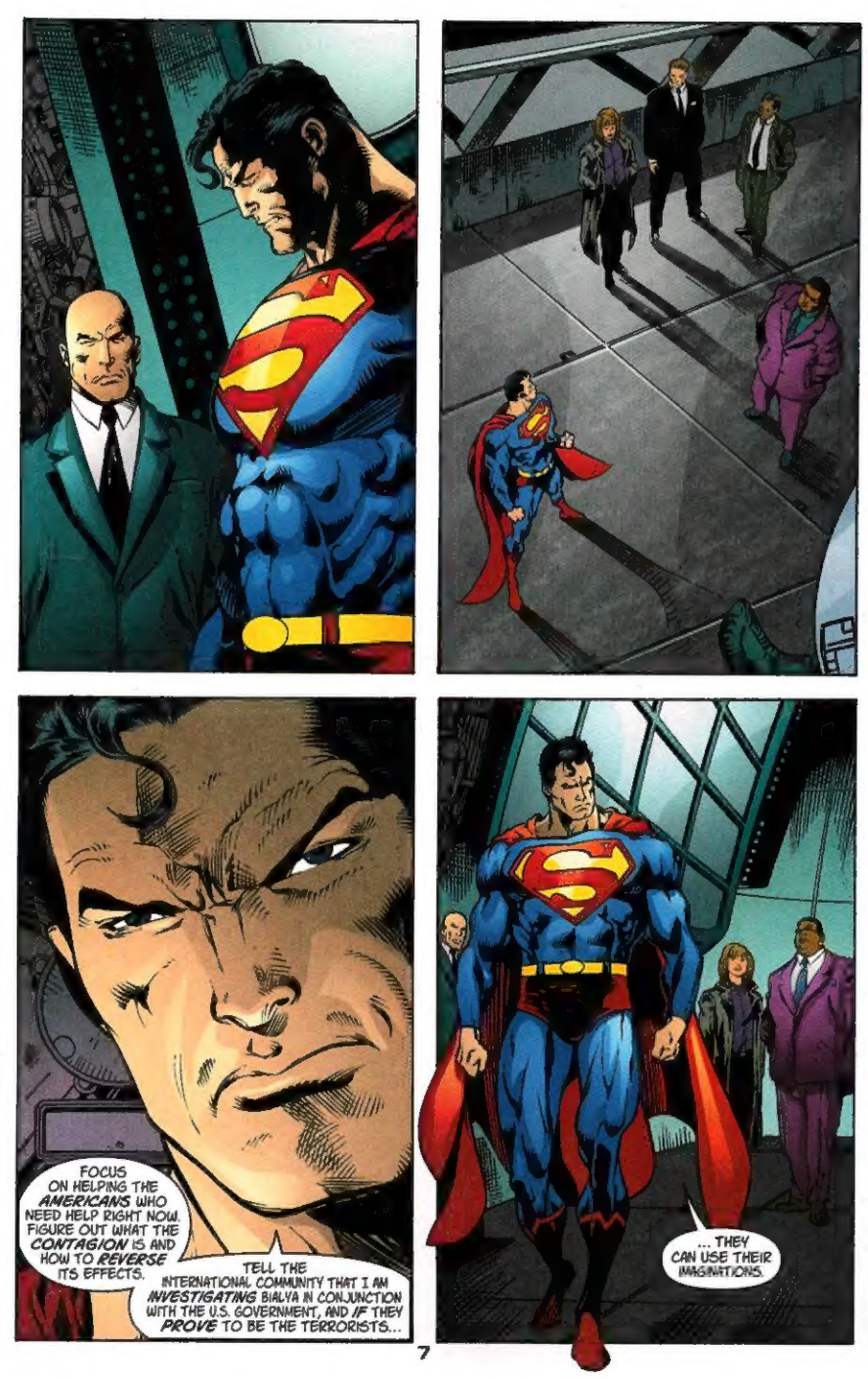

P-PLEASE... I NEED THIS MONEY. TECH LAYOFFS. I'VE BEEN ON FURLOUGH FOR THREE MONTHS.
I SAID LIE DOWN OR I'LL BLOW YOUR DAMN HEAD OFF!
I D-DON'T W-WANT TO HURT ANYONE. P-PLEASE STOP SHOUTING. PLEASE JUST --
GET THE +@+@ DOWN *@*#! ?+!
I'M SORRY.
PLEASE GIVE ME THE BIGGEST BILLS YOU HAVE.
One in five million humans typically undergo a metagene transmutation per year. Current figures put the rate at one in one thousand per week. The victims of the virus have nothing in common, except for one thing:
They are all on American soil.

DOWNSIZE THIS, YOU @#&*!
ANYBODY GONNA DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?
I AIN'T A COP.
...many infected individuals have offered their services to local police, while many more have taken advantage of their newfound powers. Crimes of passion and violence have skyrocketed.
The nation's population of costumed crimefighters has been pushed to the limit against an army of well over thirty thousand new Metas.
NO! NO! NO!
LET HIM GO, BUNNY! WE HAVE TO RUN!
BUT HE HAS A YACHT AND A MINK FARM AND A HEART CONDITION, GLADYS! HE CAN'T BLOW UP!
FWOOOOSH
I WISH WE'D NEVER LEFT METROPOLIS.
NO!
Their efforts to contain the domestic strife and keep the death toll from rising have been Herculean...
Especially those of the man who was there from the beginning...

It is this reporter's humble opinion that Superman has felt every death, every disaster, every tear shed as if it were his own. If there is a way to end this crisis, Superman will find it.
He leaves for Washington today to meet with President Luthor.
-Lois Lane, Daily Planet
The HARVEST
PART ONE
JOE KELLY WRITER
TOM DERENICK PENCILS
808 PETRECCA & NORM RAPMUND INKS
GUY MAJOR COLORS
COMICRAFT LETTERS
TOM PALMER JR. ASSOC. ED.
EDDIE BERGANZA EDITOR
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

"PUT THIS IN A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE. THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS BEEN PERCEIVED AS THE MOST POWERFUL NATION ON EARTH...
"...BUT WE WERE NEVER THOUGHT OF AS A BOMB WAITING TO GO OFF--
--ACTION IS REQUIRED DOMESTICALLY, TO QUELL THE PANIC AND STOP THE DESTRUCTION --
-- AND INTERNATIONALLY, TO PUNISH THOSE WHO BROUGHT THIS DOWN ON OUR HEADS.
BIALYA... AGENT CHASE?
ANTI-TERRORISM REPORTS AN UNUSUALLY HIGH LEVEL OF "CHATTER" JUST BEFORE THE ATTACK.
GENERAL REJAK HAS BEEN MAKING OVERTURES THAT HE ENGINEERED THIS PLOT. WE'RE CONFIDENT IT'S HIM.
I WANT YOU OVER THERE.
I WANT YOU TO ENSURE THEY PAY.
ISN'T IT POSSIBLE THAT AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY WAS USED AGAINST US?
HEROVILLE, 1953? UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S SUPER-WARRIOR PROGRAM? I'M SURE YOU'VE "READ THE FILE" BY NOW.
SEE CURRENT ISSUES OF ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN — ED.

ARE YOU IMPLYING THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ATTACKED ITS OWN --
NO, SECRETARY WALLER. I'M SAYING THAT BEFORE WE UNLEASH HELL ON A NATION, EVEN A TERRORIST ONE, WE NEED ALL THE FACTS--
WE HAVE FACTS, SUPERMAN. WE'RE DROWNING IN FACTS.
D.E.O. AND S.T.A.R. LABS HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE PENTAGON TO CRACK THE CONTAMINANT.
THEY'RE STILL AT IT, BUT WE FOUND THE DELIVERY SYSTEM. THEY PICKED IT OFF OF A VOLUNTARY SUBJECT.
BUGS.
THEY USED GENETICALLY ENHANCED MOSQUITOES TO ATTACK US. MILLIONS OF THEM, WEAPONIZED TO WITHSTAND THE COLD, AND INFECTED WITH SOME SORT OF CONTAGON --
DEPARTMENT OF EXTRANORMAL OPERATIONS-- ED.
SO IT IS BIOLOGICAL WARFARE. GOOD LORD.
THE SWARM WAS RELEASED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN FOUR OR FIVE LOCATIONS AROUND THE NATION, BUT THEY HIT LITTLE FALLS FIRST.
THEY BITE UP TO A HUNDRED PEOPLE EACH, THEN DIE OFF. OF THOSE, THE FOLKS WHO HAPPEN TO HAVE A METAGENE ARE TRIGGERED.
WE'LL HAVE THE D.N.A. DECODED WITHIN A DAY, BUT THIS DELIVERY SYSTEM... THIS IS TECHNOLOGY USED BY THE ORIGINAL KILLER BEE. SHE WAS A BIALYAN OPERATIVE.
THIS IS YOUR SMOKING GUN.


FOCUS ON HELPING THE AMERICANS WHO NEED HELP RIGHT NOW. FIGURE OUT WHAT THE CONTAGION IS AND HOW TO REVERSE ITS EFFECTS.
TELL THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT I AM INVESTIGATING BIALYA IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND IF THEY PROVE TO BE THE TERRORISTS...
... THEY CAN USE THEIR IMAGINATIONS.

(THEY HAVE SEEN HOW THEIR MIGHTY BABYLON CAN CRUMBLE! THE MONSTERS THEY BREED NOW WALK IN THE LIGHT OF DAY!)
(AS THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE DEVOURED BY THE AMERICAN MONSTERS -- SO SHALL THAT NATION FEEL WHAT THE REST OF THE WORLD HAS FELT --)
(CONSUMPTION BY THE NEVER-ENDING IMPERIALISM OF THE UNITED STATES!!)
(THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN WHAT AWAITS AMERICA!)
(BIALYA'S ALLIES ARE IN POSITION, EVEN NOW, WITH A HIDDEN ARSENAL AIMED AT CENTERS OF COMMERCE AND SIN!)
(WHEN AMERICA WAKES, THEY--?)
...
DRIPP
SPLISSH
SPLUT

KA
CHOOOOM
ZZZAK!
AIIIEEEE!

GOD. NO. NO.
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
}URRKT! (C-CURSE H-HIM H-HIM AND HIS KIN...)

ZOD
CUT OFF THE HEAD AND THE BODY DIES.
THE BIALYAN MILITARY COMPLEX NO LONGER EXISTS. THERE WILL BE NO MORE TRANSMUTATIONS.
RAJAK IS YOURS, TO PUNISH AS YOU WILL
WAIT! HOLD YOUR FIRE!!
GENERAL ZOD, THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT -- CANNOT CONDONE A STRIKE OF THIS NATURE --
THE UNITED STATES NEEDS CONDONE NOTHING. POKOLISTAN BEARS ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS ATTACK --
THOUSANDS! YOU SLAUGHTERED THOUSANDS!!
WHY?!
WHOMP

FAR MORE WOULD HAVE DIED IF THE BIALYA SITUATION WERE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE UNCHECKED.
...AS IT HAS HERE. CONSIDER MY INTERVENTION A PEACE OFFERING.
YOU TWISTED --
THIS CONVERSATION IS OVER.
HMN
MISTER PRESIDENT, SINCE THE IMPERIEX WAR, POKOLISTAN HAS VALUED ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES --
-- BUT YOUR METAHUMAN PROBLEM CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO POISON THE REST OF THE WORLD.
I COME OFFERING ASSISTANCE TOWARDS A FINAL SOLUTION. STERILIZATION OF BIALYA WAS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS PROTECTING OUR INTERESTS.
"FINAL SOLUTION"? YOU WANT TO CORRAL THE NEW METAS AND SLAUGHTER THEM THE WAY--
SUPERMAN, PLEASE
GENERAL ZOD... THERE WILL BE NO REMEDY TO THIS PLAGUE UNLESS WE CAN COMBAT ITS CAUSE.
BUT WHILE OUR SCIENTISTS AND SUPERMAN WORK ON CRACKING THAT PROBLEM, I SHOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE GEOPOLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS OF WHAT'S HAPPENING
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT

"ZOD'S INVOLVED. I KNOW IT."
I WANT PROOF. AND I WANT THE CURE.
YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT, THE WAY THIS EQUIPMENT IS HOLDING UP
WHY DON'T WE HAVE THESE IN THE WATCHTOWER?
THE POWER AGGREGATE NECESSARY TO RUN THESE MACHINES CAN'T —
HOLD ON, I --
OH BOY
YOU HAVE IT, JOHN?
I HAVE SOMETHING.
YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SIT DOWN FOR THIS...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. I AM SORRY THAT I HAVE TO ADDRESS YOU ALL THIS WAY, BUT . . . WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THE "CONTAGION" THAT HAS TRIGGERED THE METAGENE TRANSFORMATIONS IS IN FACT A NEW GENOME...
... WITH KRYPTONIAN GENETIC SIGNATURES.
SPECIFICALLY, THE "ENGINEERS" BEHIND THIS PLOT HAVE TAKEN THE KRYPTONIAN GENE THAT CONVERTS SOLAR ENERGY INTO BIOLOGICAL POWER --
-- AND SPLICED IT WITH THE HUMAN METAGENE TRIGGER, WHICH IS USUALLY RANDOMIZED AND RARELY EVER MANIFESTED.
IN EFFECT... THE SOURCE OF TRANSMUTATION AND POWER FOR THE THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS AFFLICTED BY THIS ATTACK
IS THE YELLOW SUN.
YOU HAVE MY PERSONAL PLEDGE THAT WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF THE ATTACK --
-- AND MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES FOR ANY PART MY PHYSIOLOGY MAY HAVE PLAYED IN THE TRAGEDY AFFECTING OUR NATION
THEY'RE GONNA TRY TO TAKE IT AWAY
THEY'RE GONNA TAKE OUR POWERS AWAY

OBVIOUSLY, WE CANNOT BLOCK OUT THE SUN, BUT WHILE WE WORK ON AN ANTI-GENE TO CURE OUR PEOPLE, THE CARNAGE HAS TO STOP.
THIS MIGHT WORK.
AND JUST HOW LONG DID YOU HAVE THESE THINGS LYING AROUND S.T.A.R. LABS, MISTER PRESIDENT?
I'LL IGNORE THAT
WE WON'T
"IN 'LAYMANESE,' THE NODES ARE CAPABLE OF GENERATING SUBSPACE DISTORTIONS ALONG A SPHERE AT GREAT DISTANCES.
"WHEN THE SUN'S RAYS PASS THROUGH THE 'SUBSPACE LENSES,' THEY WILL SLOW DOWN. CHANGING FREQUENCY--"
GREAT HERA, LUTHOR... YOU'RE GOING TO TURN THE SUN RED.
UNDER A RED SUN, THE METAGENE TRIGGERS WILL NOT FIRE. THE POWERS WILL GO AWAY.
IT'S ONLY TEMPORARY UNTIL WE CAN UNDO THE DAMAGE FROM THE GENEBOMB. THERE'S ONLY ONE SMALL PROBLEM--

THE ONLY SOURCE STRONG ENOUGH TO GENERATE THE FIELD IS INSIDE THE SUN ITSELF.
WE WILL HAVE TO FLY THE PRIMARY NODE INTO THE SUN OURSELVES.
THIS IS MADNESS. WORKING WITH ZOD! TURNING THE SUN RED --
THE SUBSPACE "LENSES" WILL ALLOW HEAT TO PASS THROUGH. THEY WILL ALLOW MOST OF THE LIGHT FROM OUR SUN...
...AND THE UNITED NATIONS HAVE ALREADY APPROVED THEIR DEPLOYMENT
WHERE, EXACTLY, DO YOU THINK THAT THE BANLYANS LEARNED HOW TO SPLICE KRYPTONIAN AND HUMAN DNA?
THAT COULDN'T HAVE COME FROM THE SAME EXPERIMENT THAT CREATED KANCER, COULD IT? THE MONSTER YOU CREATED?
I'M WILLING TO MAKE A SACRIFICE IF IT SAVES LIVES, BUT IT MUST BE OBVIOUS TO YOU PEOPLE/ THE INSTANT MY POWER WANES, ZOD WILL ATTACK.
I WOULD SPEAK WITH YOU ALONE.
IT'S ABOUT DAMN TIME

LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH-- WHATEVER IT IS YOU HAVE PLANNED
THERE ARE PEOPLE DYING EVERY SECOND I WASTE WITH YOUR GAMES.
I KNOW YOU HATE ME. I HATE YOU TOO, FROM THE DEPTHS OF MY BEING, BUT I MUST ADMIT... I AM DISAPPOINTED IN YOU.
YOU KNOW WHAT I AM CAPABLE OF. YOU KNOW MY STRENGTH. MY POWERS...
...AND YET IT HAS NEVER OCCURRED TO YOU... EXACTLY WHO I AM. OR PERHAPS IT HAS... BUT YOU REFUSE TO ADMIT IT.
NO

IF THE SUN GOES RED... I HAVE AS MUCH TO LOSE AS YOU DO.
I WOULD MAKE EQUAL SACRIFICE TO KEEP YOUR WRETCHED PROGENY FROM DEVOURING THE EARTH.
THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THEM, KAL-EL.
WOULD YOU DO THE SAME?
HOW? HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?
SURVIVE WHAT IS TO COME... AND I WILL TELL YOU.
I SWEAR IT.

A CLONE?
POSSIBLE.
YOU FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE KRYPTON?
MORE LIKELY.
RED SUPERMAN?
DON'T EVEN.
"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES."
"THE FINEST MINDS AND THE BRAVEST SOLDIERS ARE, AS WE SPEAK, UNDERTAKING A GRAVE AND INSPIRATIONAL MISSION TO SAVE HUMANITY--"
HE'S GOING TO TRY TO KILL YOU. HE'S COUNTING ON YOUR CURIOSITY AS A WEAKNESS.
I KNOW.
YOU CAN'T TRUST HIM, CLARK. NO MATTER WHAT...
HE IS NOT YOU.
"--THE TRANSFORMATION WILL BE HARMLESS AND VERY TEMPORARY. REMEMBER THAT THIS IS FOR THE GOOD OF THE NATION...
"...THE GOOD OF THE WORLD. SO I AM URGING ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THIS TRAGIC ATTACK TO LET OUR MEN AND WOMEN DO THEIR WORK."

"...AND DO NOT INTERFERE. THE POWER YOU WIELD IS NOT A GIFT. IT IS A CURSE. A SICKNESS FORISTED UPON YOU BY TERRORISTS--"
"HE IS NOT YOU, CLARK."
"--LET US HELP YOU."
"NEVER FORGET THAT."

FAA
ZOOM
FZZZZOOOOSH
To Be Continued